PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

I would like to thank the parents, families, Gungahlin students and volunteers for their contributions at the swimming carnival. This event would not have been such a success without you all. Congratulations to the happy year 3/4 campers. They all had a great time at Birrigai on Wednesday. It was a very big day out for them. Our Year 5 & 6 students are off to Berry on Monday for their camp. This year they get an evening in a tent!

Today we have the Billy Bush Tea Band at our school. Each class has the opportunity to participate in the dance lessons. Dance is part of our PE and the Arts curriculum. Thanks to the P&C and their focus on building community, we have the Billy Bush Tea Band Bush Dance this evening for families to enjoy. There will be a BBQ run by staff and an opportunity to dance with your child ($2 for a sausage sandwich and gold coin donation to dance).

I will be taking long service leave from 17 February to 13 March. I am off on a snow skiing adventure in the US and Canada. Kate Flynn our Deputy will be acting Principal in my absence and Haeley Simms will be acting Deputy for the three weeks.

Parking
Thank you for your patience in parking. This year with an increase in student numbers, we are finding that the car spaces are filling up a bit quicker. The community has previously recommended that parking at the shops or in a nearby street behind the school assists. If you have an older child, picking them up 5 mins after the bell assists also, as spaces become available quickly. If you wish to stay and have a chat to other parents or let your child play on the equipment (under your supervision), then please try to park in the alternate options, to allow for quicker moving pick-ups in the afternoon. If we all work together on this, we will have a better flow to the carpark. Thank you for your consideration in this.

Remember, we have a great bike enclosure and walking in this weather is a wonderful healthy option.
**Teacher meetings**

We encourage you to have regular communication with your child’s teacher/s. Last week we had our parent teacher information sessions. These were well attended. If you were unable to attend, then we sent home the flyer that outlined the presentation. If you need to contact the teacher, you can call the front office and make an appointment or email the teacher. Remember that teachers have set meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and at times leave the school after 3pm for professional learning. Teachers will work with you to ensure you can access them. We have formal points of reporting to you and these are outlined in our reporting document on our website.

**Safety at school**

The school is working with the School Board to write a document outlining how we keep the student safe at school in time of emergencies. This includes practice in lock downs, lock ins and lock outs (fire drill). This document will be out over the next few weeks. If you have any questions, please just drop by and ask.

Have a great week and see you at the Bush Dance.

*Melissa Travers*

*Photos from the swimming carnival*

*Thank you to the P&C for the watermelon!*
UPCOMING EVENTS

**Billy Tea Bush Band**

**Date:** TONIGHT - Thursday 16 February  
**Location:** Palmerston District Primary School  
Billy Tea Bush Band dance at school for entire school community.  
As part of the fun we will have hay bales for decoration. They will be distributed across the basketball court.  
We will also have a BBQ so you can have dinner at school as well as a dance.  
**Time:**  
5:00pm - Sausage Sizzle ($2 per sausage)  
5:30pm - Dancing

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**Year 5/6 - 3 day camp to Berry Sport and Recreation Centre** - see notes sent home  
**Date:** Monday 20 February - Wednesday 22 February  
**Location:** Berry Sport and Recreation Centre  
7:00am - Students to arrive at school for a 7:30am departure on Monday 20 February  
4:00pm - bus returns to Palmerston (approx.) on Wednesday 22 February

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DEFENCE NEWS

WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR NEW & EXISTING DEFENCE FAMILIES TO ANOTHER YEAR AT PDPS! I hope it has been a smooth & happy start for you all.  
DSTA Hours and contact details - I am available at school each Wednesday & Friday  
9:00am- 2:30pm and my office is located in the Library Resource Room, next to the Library. Defence Kids Activity Club is also held here each Friday at lunch time where the children (& a friend!) enjoy a range of construction, craft and games each week.  
I look forward to meeting you all very soon!  
Thanks,  
**Mia Bartlett**  
Defence School Transition Aide (DSTA)  
Palmerston District Primary School  
Phone: 6205 7241
P&C NEWS

The P&C AGM was held on Monday 13 February and we are pleased to report that we have a new P&C executive in place for 2017. A big thank you to everyone who has volunteered to take on the roles.

2017 P&C Positions are held by the following

President - Lisa Fior
Vice President - Sharley Pavier-Jones
Secretary – Emma Davidson
Assistant secretary - Mandy Scanes
Treasurer - Jenni Palombi
Assistant Treasurer – Helen Ritchie
Fundraising Officer - Tara McGowan
Public Officer - Marina Zwangobani
Fundraising Team Members – Christy Kinder
Second Hand Clothing Shop Coordinator – vacant
Second Hand Clothing Shop Assistant – Natasha Newman
Student Banking Coordinator & Book Club Coordinator - Edwina Samuelson

As the continuing P&C President I look forward to spending time getting to know many more families at Palmerston Primary School. The P&C and all of its volunteers have many events planned in 2017 and we look forward to the year ahead.

We welcome and warmly encourage new parents to the P&C. Being a member is a great way to contribute to and be part of your child’s schooling. Meetings are held in week 3 and 9 of each term. Please come along and find out what the P&C is all about.

If you can help in any way or would like more information on them then please see one of the P&C executive or email palmpandc@hotmail.com.

Lisa Fior
P&C President

SCHOOL DISCO

Mark it in your calendars and polish your dancing shoes – first school disco of the year – Friday 24 March 2017 - more information coming soon
School Banking

Every Wednesday morning in the staff room.
Bank books can be left at the front office by 9.30am.
Joanne from Commonwealth Bank will be at school from 8.30am on Tuesday 21st February (Tuesday week 4) to assist with questions and information about School Banking.
We will also be offering 2 account opening information sessions at preschool on Wed 1 March (week 5) & Wed 8 March (week 6).
If you would like to open a new account, a Youthsaver account can be opened online by all parents. Visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and click on the link to open the Youthsaver account.
Parents will need their child’s birth certificate or similar identification as well as their own to complete the process and generate an account.
Or you can visit any Commonwealth Bank branch with identification and open an account.
Please remember to make your FIRST deposit via the school so that the P&C receives the benefit.

School Banking Information & Account Opening Session

Palmerston Primary School offers School Banking to all students.

School Banking is designed to help your child develop strong financial literacy skills for the future. It is a fun and interactive rewards based program that encourages regular savings participation. The program is about how often your child makes a deposit, not how much.

Every deposit earns your child a Dollarmites token, and once they’ve collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for a reward.
There is also a family holiday to Tokyo Disneyland up for grabs to eligible bankers.

Benefits to our school include a generous commission paid by the Commonwealth Bank to use for fundraising and last year we earned $1200 – WOW!

School Banking day is every Wednesday and books are handed in at class or at the front office by 9.30am

We will be holding an information and account opening session on Tuesday 21st February from 8.30 to 9.30 at the school on the blacktop.

Opening sessions will also be held at preschool on Wed 1st March & Wed 8th March from 8.30am
What's On

Participation, Respect, Integrity, Determination, Empathy

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**Book Club**

Hopefully everyone should have received issue 1 by now. The deadline for all orders is Thursday 23 February.

There are 2 ways you can order from our Book Club Catalogues:

1: **Pay Cash or Cheque.**

If this is your preference, then please fill out the back page of the catalogue with all of your child's details, including the books required and total amounts.

Then place the completed back page of the catalogue with the correct amount of money (or cheque made payable to Scholastic Australia) into an envelope marked with “Book Club”.

Then place this envelope into the “Boomerang Box” located in the front office foyer.

A receipt will be returned with the book once it arrives.

2: **Order and pay Online**

Please follow the steps using the LOOP method. This requires payment online.

If you order and pay via LOOP you DO NOT need to hand in any paperwork.

The books can take up to 2 weeks to be distributed after the deadline closes.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Edwina

0422006142

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**Introducing**

![Scholastic Book Clubs LOOP for Parents](image)

**LOOP** is Scholastic Book Clubs Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for Parents.

If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, **LOOP** makes it easy! It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound.

Log-in to [www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) or download our iPhone and iPad app from the App Store or get it on Google Play for Android.

- For a quick start, just click on ORDER in the top menu or REGISTER first to save your details for next time
- Select your school and your child's class
- Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
- Enter the item number from the Book Club catalogue
- You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school
- All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child's classroom if you order by the close date
- There's no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school!
Mother Language Walk 2017

The United Nations has proclaimed that 21 February is International Mother Language Day. Everyone is invited to celebrate International Mother Language Day by participating in a walk across Commonwealth Bridge singing your mother language to celebrate language identity.

When: Sunday 26 February from 10.00am.
Free event.
For further information email: imlm.21feb@gmail.com or visit the website: http://imlm21.org.au external link.